Message Text

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42.

ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 W

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P 111155Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8618

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 14357

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

1. FOLLOWING FROM AMBASSADOR:

A. WE APPRECIATE VERY MUCH THE SUGGESTION BY GENERAL AND MRS. MUSGRAVE TO HAVE A PARTY FOR US IN REHOBOTH AND WE ACCEPT WITH PLEASURE. AT PRESENT WE ARE PLANNING TO ARRIVE IN REHOBOTH EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 17 AND EXPECT TO STAY THROUGH THE FOLLOWING WEEK. DATE OF PARTY COULD BE WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 18 OR EARLY FOLLOWING WEEK.

- B. I WOULD BE PLEASED TO MEET WITH OPEN FORUM PANEL AND WE CAN DISCUSS DETAILS AFTER OUR RETURN.
- 2. RE STATE 224857, PARA 1: WHAT ABOUT ONE FREQUENCY PER WEEK AFTER OCTOBER 31, AND SHOULD THIS BE DISCUSSED WITH SEAWALL?
- 3. DAO PROJECT: YES, THERE IS VERY SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE
 BETWEEN STAGING IN PIECEMEAL AND SENDING BY CHARTER. ATTEMPT TO
 DO LATTER WILL BE MUCH MORE SUBJECT TO SOVIET INTERFERENCE.
 NORMALLY LARGE NUMBER OF POUCHES ON SPECIAL FLIGHTS MUST GO
 THROUGH CUSTOMS FOR COUNTING AND WEIGHING AND POSSIBILITIES FOR
 TROUBLE ARE LEGION: RIGHT MAN ISN'T THERE TO STAP PAPERS, TRUCKS
 NOT AVAILABLE (OR OURS NOT ALLOWED ON TARMAC), ETC., ETC. THIS
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WOULD APPLY A FORTIORI ON WEEKENDS. INTERFERENCE WITH NORMAL

COURIER RUNS WOULD BE MOST DIFFICULT FOR SOVIETS SINCE IT WOULD RAISE SPECTER OF OUR POSSIBLE INTERFERENCE WITH THEIRS. WE HAVE NEVER HAD PROBLEMS ON REGULAR RUNS.

- 4. WE DON'T SEE PROBLEM WITH ONE OR TWO COURIER-ACCOMPANIED RUNS BY PAN AM FROM U.S. HOW WOULD THIS JEOPARDIZE REGULAR RUNS? WE HAVE RIGHT TO SEND COURIERS WHENEVER AND HOWEVER WE WISH. POSSIBILITY FOR SOVIETS TO HARASS OR DELAY REASONABLY NORMAL COURIER RUNS ARE MUCH LESS THAN FOR BULK SHIPMENT.
- 5. WE DON'T UNDERSTAND QUESTION OF FLOOR LOADING. WE WOULD NOT STORE EVERYTHING BUT INSTAL AS STAGED SECTIONS ARRIVE. IF THERE IS FLOOR-LOADING PROBLEM WITH OUR PROPOSAL, THEN THERE IS GREATER ONE FOR PROJECT AS WHOLE SINCE IT WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM TENTH-FLOOR ROOF.
- 6. BRIEFING HIGHLY UNWISE, AND WILL CREATE PROBLEMS RATHER THAN SOLVING THEM. WILL SPELL OUT IN LETTER IF YOU DESIRE. PROBLEM WITH STORAGE IN VANS IS THAT THEY WOULD BE HIGHLY VISIBLE (DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF SNACK BAR AND DOCTOR'S OFFICE). NO OTHER POTENTIAL SPACE EXISTS IN COURTYARD WHICH IS NOT ALREADY TAKEN. SINCE PROBLEM IS PRESENCE OF SEALED VANS IN VERY AWKWARD LOCATIONS, TIMING OF SHPMENT IS IMMATERIAL.
- 7. SINCE THIS WHOLE PROJECT COULD COINCIDE WITH ARRIVAL OF NEW AMBASSADOR, WE BELIEVE PLANS SHOULD BE DELAYED SUFFICIENTLY TO DISCUSS WITH HIM, WHICH SHOULD NOT BE FOR VERY LONG. WE CAN SUPPLY BACKGROUND INFO AND TALKING POINTS THROUGH YOU FOR HIM, BUT WOULD STRESS AGAIN THAT IF PROJECT MUST BE DONE, ALL RPT ALL ADVANTAGES FROM OUR VIEWPOINT HERE LIE WITH STAGED OPERATION PERMITTING PIECE-BY-PIECE SHIPMENT AND INSTALLATION AS PIECES ARRIVE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 11 SEP 1976 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW14357

Document Number: 1976MOSCOW14357 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760343-1115

From: MOSCOW Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760970/aaaachvt.tel Line Count: 94

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL **Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY** Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: ShawDG

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 12 MAY 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: OFFICIAL - INFORMAL NO DISTRIBUTION OUTSIDE EUR/SOV - 3 COPIES ONLY FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006